

Fairfax County History Commission Annual Report 2009



*The Armorial Bearings and Supporters of
THOMAS 6TH LORD FAIRFAX
as recorded at the College of Arms, London*

Windsor Herald and Registrar

Fairfax County History Commission

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CHAIRMAN’S REMARKS

The mission of the Fairfax History Commission is to advise the County Government, to promote and encourage public interest in all matters bearing on the history of Fairfax County, and to help identify, document, record, and preserve our County's historic past here in Northern Virginia.

In support of this mission, the History Commission identifies goals each year and develops strategies for meeting these goals. This targeted approach to planning yielded significant results in 2009. It was a banner year for historical roadside markers; six markers were approved by the Commission and four markers were installed and dedicated. The Ethnic and Oral History Committee, after developing standardized procedures for oral history interviews, completed several interviews of County citizens. These histories recorded a broad spectrum of cultural history. Finally, the Fairfax County Inventory of Historic Sites was expanded to include 16 additional sites.

The Commission also organized a highly successful history conference that not only educated an interested public, but also brought together citizens from all over the County with diverse historical interests to network and convey ideas.

On behalf of the Fairfax County History Commission, I thank you for your generous support in the work we do.

Deborah Robison
Chairman,
Fairfax County History Commission

OVERVIEW

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors officially created the Commission in 1969. It grew out of the Landmarks Preservation Committee established in 1965. The Commission's function is to advise the County government and generally promote the public interest in all matters bearing on the history of Fairfax County. There are 20 members. The Commission has no employees. The Commission meets on the first Wednesday of each month. All meetings are open to the public and a contractor prepares minutes. In addition to the regular meetings, members put in many volunteer hours each month on the Commission's committees.

The Commission carries out the Board of Supervisors' mandate in various ways:

- The Commission maintains the Fairfax County Inventory of Historic Sites, which was a subject of two Out of Turn Plan Amendments this year.
- The Commission advises the Board and appropriate agencies on matters involving the history of the County in the following ways:
 - Works closely with the Department of Planning and Zoning; the Architectural Review Board; the Park Authority, especially the Cultural Resource Management and Protection programs; and the Public Libraries, especially the Virginia Room.
 - Proposes and monitors Historic Overlay Districts. A member of the Commission, Elise Ruff Murray, serves in an *ex officio* capacity on the Architectural Review Board.
 - The Commission is consulted on development or demolition of old or historic structures, whether on the Fairfax County Inventory of Historic Sites or not.
 - Advises the State Review Board and Historic Resources Board about historic and cultural sites recommended for inclusion on the National Register.

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- Participates in matters under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, which requires federal agencies to take into account the effects of their undertakings on historic properties. Robert E. Beach continues to represent the Commission in the Section 106 Review of the Route 1-Telegraph Road Connector and actively participates in the BRAC process at Fort Belvoir. Gretchen Bulova represented the Commission as part of the Laurel Hill House Study, contributing recommendations for the future use and preservation of the house and site.
- In order to generally promote the public interest in all matters bearing on the history of Fairfax County, the Commission:
 - Cooperates with the Fairfax County Public Schools, Northern Virginia Community College and George Mason University in local history activities.
 - Provides advice and assistance to local historical societies, churches and citizens' groups on matters of historic preservation. The Commission gave Shiloh Baptist Church a grant to help research the Church's history in preparation for a 135th anniversary celebration. The Commission also gave a grant to the Lincoln at the Crossroads Project
 - Assists in negotiations for preservation easements.
 - Promotes the establishment of volunteer citizen special interest groups.
 - Attends meetings, conferences and seminars for continuing education.
 - Participates with other state, national and local organizations in joint programs. Carole Herrick is representing Fairfax County on the War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemoration Planning Committee for the region—Maryland, D.C. and Northern Virginia. See, also, the Civil War Sesquicentennial section of this report.
 - Pays special attention to the possibilities for tax incentives for preserving historic properties.
 - Acts as a liaison with public and private historical agencies in the County and on the state and national levels.
 - Supports and encourages activities at all educational levels that will stimulate interest in the archeological and historical background of Fairfax County.
 - Supports oral history programs in Fairfax County.
 - Supports the collections of the Virginia Room of the City of Fairfax Regional Library and the preservation of materials held therein.
 - Supports the Park Authority Cultural Resources Management and Protection programs (CRMP) that include the over 30-year-old County archeology program.
 - Provides occasional support to the archives of the Circuit Court.
- Specific programs to promote the public interest in all matters bearing on history in Fairfax County include:
 - Robert E. Beach and Mayo Stuntz are members of the leadership group that is examining the various details associated with the many aspects of developing and operating a Fairfax County History Museum. Jack L. Hiller, Lynne Garvey-Hodge, Mary Lipsey, Barbara Naef and Debbie Robison each serve on one of eight subcommittees that include: Scope; Museum Interior Architecture; Site Selection; Museum and the Community; Governance; Funding; Audience/Diversity and Marketing.
 - Grants to DPZ for preservation consultants to work on the Inventory of Historic Sites and to perform surveys and studies.

- Grants to Cultural Resource Management Section for interns and consultants to perform archeological and architectural surveys as needed.
- Annual grant to the Virginia Room for preservation and research materials.
- Fairfax County's Historical Marker Program that marks appropriate historical sites throughout the County.
- Awards programs to honor achievements in Fairfax County history and historic preservation.
- Publishes books and maps on Fairfax County history and assists in reprinting County history publications.
- Annual History Conference to educate County citizens about Fairfax County History.
- Compiled a list of people willing to speak on topics related to Fairfax County history.
- Grant to George Mason University for a GIS database of features noted on pre-settlement surveys.
- Provides a juror for the annual Fairfax County Exceptional Design Award. In 2009, Robert E. Beach served.
- Since 1969 the Commission has contributed the following to the County:
 - Completed a program to index, abstract and microfiche early Circuit Court Records.
 - Prompted the creation of the Fairfax County Records Management Program.
 - Initiated the establishment of the County Archeology program.
 - Prepared property identification maps and a census of Fairfax County in 1860.

CIVIL WAR SESQUICENTENNIAL

Fairfax County has joined other localities across the state in forming a Local Sesquicentennial Committee to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. Members of the Commission have joined with Visit Fairfax, the Park Authority and representatives from local groups and societies to work with the State Commission, plan events and activities that highlight its ties to the Civil War, and to promote its Civil War history. Don Hakenson was; then Jo Balicki was; now Gretchen Bulova is the Commission's representative to the County Sesquicentennial Steering Committee and serves as Chair of the History Commission's committee. Members have included Don Hakenson, Jo Balicki, Carole Herrick, Mary Lipsey and Naomi Zeavin.

BUDGET

Fairfax County History Commission Income and Expenses FY 2009, Estimated FY 2010 and Actual First Half FY 2010

	<u>FY 2009</u>	<u>Estimated FY 2010</u>	<u>First Half FY 2010</u>
Beginning Balance July 1	\$68,146	\$26,900	\$26,900
Revenues:			
Fairfax County	\$26,022	\$22,119	\$22,119
Interest Earned	37	—	3
History Conference Reimbursement	<u>5,095</u>	<u>2,160</u>	<u>0</u>
Total, Revenues	\$31,154	\$24,279	\$22,122
Total Available	\$99,300	\$51,179	\$49,022
Operating Expenses	\$72,400	\$30,000	\$20,892
Accruals for the Preservation, Publications and Oral History Programs	—	\$21,179	—
Ending Balance June 30	<u>\$26,900</u>		

In May 2009, the Commission transferred \$46,000 to DPZ to fund the Limited Term Historian I position in FY 2010. Other major expenditures in FY 2009 included the annual History Conference, grants to George Mason University for a GIS database of features noted on pre-settlement surveys, to the Park Authority Cultural Resource Management and Protection Section for summer interns, and to the Lincoln at the Crossroads Alliance. Major expenditures in the first half of FY 2010 included the annual History Conference, a grant to the Park Authority Cultural Resource Management and Protection Section for summer interns, and Historical Markers.

All unspent funds from previous years have been committed to publications projects such as “Fairfax County in 1860” and to preservation and oral history programs.

FIFTH ANNUAL HISTORY CONFERENCE

“Fairfax: This is YOUR County!”— James Lee Community Center, November 7, 2009

Fairfax County’s 5th Annual History Conference was held on Saturday, November 7, 2009 at the James Lee Community Center in Annandale. The Conference was well attended by over 112 guests – opportunities to meet local historians, authors and exhibitors were plentiful. Co-sponsor, the Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center provided prizes for the annual Trivia Contest. Jason’s Deli provided an excellent breakfast and lunch. The County Archeology Lab, part of Cultural Resource Management and Protection Section of the Fairfax County Park Authority and located in the James Lee Center, was open for tours and demonstrations.

Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, Sharon Bulova gave the conference’s opening comments. Lifetime Achievement Awards were presented to C.K. Gailey, Tom Evans and Milburn Sanders. Mildred Moore received the first Beth Mitchell Award. For more information, see the Awards Programs section of this report.

The Conference Keynote speaker was Dr. Robert Selig, from Michigan, who spoke on “The Campaign of 1781 in Northern Virginia – the Washington-Rochambeau Route.” Dr. Selig is the national historian for the Washington Rochambeau Revolutionary Route, designated by Congress a National Historic Trail.

The panels and presentations included:

“Honoring Those Who Have Protected & Preserved Our American Freedoms,” was a panel presentation to honor Veterans Day and Fairfax County citizens who served the United States of America. Panel members were veterans Josh Lawton, John McAnaw, Sandy MacNabb and Bill Sheads

“James Lee’s Journey of Freedom,” by local historian and re-enactor, Marion Dobbins.

“The Battle of the White House after the Burning of Washington in 1814,” by Patrick O’Neill.

“Little Known Events during the Civil War in Fairfax County,” by Donald Hakenson, former History Commission

“The Origins of Springfield, Virginia,” Jack L. Hiller, History Commission

The Fairfax County 6th Annual History Conference will be held on Saturday, November 6, 2010 back at the James Lee Community Center. The theme is “Preserving our Paths of History.”

History Conference Committee members included: Susan Gray (Fairfax Museum & Visitor Center), Dr. Liz Crowell (Fairfax County Park Authority), History Commission members: Anne Barnes, Carole Herrick, Mike Irwin, Sallie Lyons, Esther McCullough, Mary Lipsey, Barbara Naef, Naomi Zeavin and Committee Chairperson, Lynne Garvey-Hodge.

ETHNIC COMMITTEE

This committee was formed in the fall of 1997 in response to the increasing demographic diversity of Fairfax County's population. The one hundred languages spoken within schools show the diversity of the population. It has been estimated that in less than fifty years the County's white population will drop below 50 percent. The committee set as a goal to explore the ways in which more ethnic segments might be encouraged to record their experiences and community history since their arrival in Northern Virginia.

The members of the Ethnic committee are Naomi Zeavin, Anne Barnes, Sallie Lyons, Lynne Garvey-Hodge and Chair, Esther McCullough.

ORAL HISTORY

In 2004, at the suggestion of then-Chairman Connolly, the Commission formed a subcommittee of the Ethnic Committee to seek a project for recording and presenting oral history in Fairfax County. The subcommittee is researching ways to present oral history that convey to the County and the youth that the history of all people is important. In addition, that history is not just the past, but is made each day.

A plan has been formed to interview people who can give history on (1) World War II; (2) African-Americans who grew up in the County; and (3) the many ethnic groups in the County. These will be conducted over a two-year span.

Led by Esther McCullough, the committee includes Naomi Zeavin, Anne Barnes, Sallie Lyons and Lynne Garvey-Hodge.

PUBLICATIONS

The Fairfax County History Commission's Publications Committee is working on several reprints including *Beginning at a White Oak: Patents and Northern Neck Grants of Fairfax County, Virginia; Fairfax County, Virginia in 1760; Legato School: A Centennial Souvenir*; and *Mount Air, Fairfax, Virginia*. Both *Fairfax County in 1760* and *Mount Air* are expected to be published during 2010. The committee is working on publishing "Fairfax County in 1860" which is a portrait of the County shown through property identification maps and an aggregation of census data. The maps are posted online at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/histcomm/1860maps.htm>. Committee members are coordinating with the Fairfax County Park Authority and the Virginia Room on sales of history publications previously sold at the Maps and Publications Center, which closed July 1, 2009. The Commission's publications are available for purchase at the Virginia Room and the old Planning Office publications are available through the Park Authority. See the Commission's website for more information.

Members of the Publications Committee are Mary Lipsey (Chair), Mayo Stuntz, Elise Ruff Murray, Barbara Naef, Lynne Garvey-Hodge, Anne Barnes, Gretchen Bulova, Carole Herrick and Suzanne Levy, *ex officio*, Virginia Room.

AWARDS PROGRAMS

The Fairfax County History Commission has established several awards programs to honor achievements in Fairfax County history and historic preservation. These programs include the Distinguished Service Awards, which are typically awarded to individuals, developers, corporations, or groups that have contributed to preserving history in Fairfax County. The Fairfax Heritage Awards are designed to encourage and reward original research in Fairfax County history. The highest award is the Nan Netherton Award, which includes a \$1,000 prize. The Mary Fahringer Memorial Award is a very special award recognizing outstanding achievement in education, concentrating in areas of history and architecture. The award for \$1,000 is not an annual one, but is reserved for truly unique and meritorious contributions.

Several awards were presented at the 5th Annual History Conference in November 2009. Lifetime Achievement Awards were presented to:

C.K. Gailey, a volunteer with the Fairfax County Park Authority Cultural Resource Management and Protection Section, for his gift of countless hours documenting the county's archeological sites and in particular his work with the County's GIS (Geographic Information System).

Tom Evans, Civil War historian and premier authority on John Singleton Mosby, for his over 30 years of professionalism and expertise as an author, editor, historical speaker and tour guide in connection with Civil War history in Fairfax County and with the combat operations of Confederate guerilla chieftain Colonel John Singleton Mosby.

Milburn Sanders, a founding member of the Great Falls Historical Society and former member of the History Commission, for his countless hours researching, documenting and promoting history especially in his native Great Falls.

The first Beth Mitchell Award went to Mildred Moore for outstanding research in documenting and indexing the obituaries and other sources for 230 individuals laid to rest in the Annandale United Methodist Church cemetery resulting in a 175 page manuscript. The Beth Mitchell Award honors a woman whose research in the Fairfax County Court Archives made it possible for her to compile a record and a map showing original landowners in the county and subsequently a record and map of all landowners in 1760 and 1860 along with the existing roads, bridges, churches, tobacco warehouses, mills, ordinaries and ferries.

The members of the Awards Committee are Lynne Garvey-Hodge, Chair, Jack Hiller, Robert Beach and Naomi Zeavin.

HISTORICAL MARKERS

Fairfax County's Historical Marker Program began in January 1998 when the History Commission approved a design and agreed to fund a distinctive marker for Fairfax County. While this marker was generally modeled after Virginia's roadside markers, by state code it had to have a distinctive appearance. With colors derived from George Washington's Fairfax Militia uniform, these buff and blue roadside markers emblazoned with the Fairfax County seal, stand ten feet from ground level.

In the eleven years that the program has existed 32 Fairfax County markers and six state markers have been funded. Many of the requests for historical markers are initiated by the public or by proffers from developers. These sources have provided more than half of the funds supporting the program to date. All requests are reviewed by a committee for historical accuracy and editorial continuity before being submitted to the entire Commission for approval.

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The year 2009 was very productive. Four historical markers were installed and dedicated, and six new markers were approved by the Commission. The markers installed and dedicated were: Beacon Field Airport at the Beacon Shopping Mall; First Confederate Officer Killed on the Fairfax Courthouse flag mall; Vale School/Vale Community House at the entrance of Vale School and Community House; and David R. Pinn Community Center at the community center on Zion Drive. The new markers approved in 2009 were: Vale School/Community House, Hunter Mill Road, Salona, David R. Pinn Community Center, Ilda, and Mosby Attacks Annandale. Two of the new markers were installed this year, three are awaiting approval from VDOT (Hunter Mill Road, Salona and Ilda) and one is due from the fabricator momentarily (Action at Annandale).

Serving on the Marker Committee are: Joe Balicki, Mary Lipsey, Esther McCullough, Page Shelp, and Jack L. Hiller, the chairman.

INVENTORY OF HISTORIC SITES

The Fairfax County Inventory of Historic Sites is one of the History Commission's longest standing responsibilities. It serves as both an honorific and a planning tool. The Comprehensive Plan includes the Inventory sites in the Heritage Resources section of each Planning District. In November 2007, the Board of Supervisors authorized an Out of Turn Plan Amendment, S07-CW-5CP. The purpose of this Countywide Heritage Resources Comprehensive Plan Amendment was to:

- Update the Inventory of Historic Sites tables that appear in the district-wide recommendation section of each planning district;
- Update the language in the Overview and Heritage Resources sections of the district-wide recommendation section of each planning district to reflect changes that have taken place;
- Consider editorial changes to reflect changes to site names;
- Modify the Plan Glossary definition for Heritage Resources; and
- Update the language in the Heritage Resources section of each planning sector to reflect changes that have taken place, and revise text where more accurate information has been discovered through additional research.

After community meetings, a meeting between the History Commission and the Planning Commission Committee of the Whole, and a public hearing, the Planning Commission voted unanimously to recommend that the Board of Supervisors approve proposed plan amendment, S07-CW-5CP, at their December 4, 2008 meeting. The History Commission is grateful to the Planning Commission for their consideration and thoughtful comments, especially to James Hart for shepherding the process.

On January 26, 2009, the plan amendment, S07-CW-5CP, came before the Board of Supervisors for a public hearing and was approved at the same meeting with the direction that staff work with the History and Planning Commissions to develop a process for updating the County Inventory of Historic Sites in the Comprehensive Plan on a systematic basis.

The Commission and staff settled on a system of annual Out of Turn Plan Amendments to update the Inventory tables, references to Inventory sites in the text and other technical corrections. S09-CW-2CP, approved by the Planning Commission on February 4, 2010 and by the Board of Supervisors on March 9, 2010 was the first of these amendments.

Much hard work by many people went into both plan amendments. Linda Cornish Blank, the County's Historic Preservation Planner oversaw the rehabilitation of the Inventory and the Out of Turn Plan Amendment process. Sterling Wheeler, at the direction of Fred Selden, Planning Division Director, oversaw the creation of planning district maps identifying all Inventory sites. Susan Hellman, Historian I,

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began the Inventory update. Laurie Turkawski, Historian I, completed the Inventory update, revised the Plan text and Inventory tables. DPZ Planning Division staff, Indrani Sistla, Senior Planner, and Harry Rado, Graphics Supervisor, contributed to the Out of Turn Plan Amendment by, respectively, developing the GIS program for the Inventory and producing the planning district maps showing the Inventory sites. Planners Maya Dhavale, Jayjeev Hada, Mubarika Shah and Mary Ann Welton provided invaluable technical assistance at the community meetings. In addition, Liz Crowell and John Rutherford of the Park Authority Cultural Resource Management and Protection Section also provided invaluable assistance, especially in evaluating demolished structures.

As of December 2009, the Inventory stands at 358 listings. The following were added in 2009:

**Additions to the Inventory of Historic Sites
2009**

Name	Date Added	District	Location
Hillwood Square	February 4, 2009	Providence	Falls Church
Payne's Store	March 4, 2009	Sully	Centreville
Stone Filling Station	March 4, 2009	Sully	Centreville
Fairfax Villa Community Park	April 1, 2009	Braddock	Fairfax
Utterback, Enos, House	May 6, 2009	Sully	Centreville
Hutchison, Silas, Saw and Grist Mill Dam and Ruins	June 3, 2009	Sully	Chantilly
Lexington Site*	July 1, 2009	Mount Vernon	Mason Neck/ Lorton
Lewinsville House/Meadowbrook	September 2, 2009	Dranesville	McLean
Crouch Schoolhouse	September 2, 2009	Springfield	Clifton
Ox Hill Battlefield Memorial Park	September 2, 2009	Springfield	Fairfax
Minnick House	October 7, 2009	Mount Vernon	Lorton
Lamond House	October 7, 2009	Mount Vernon	Alexandria
Gabrielson Gardens Park/Great Crest	October 7, 2009	Sully	Oakton
Dunn Loring Elementary School	December 2, 2009	Providence	Dunn Loring/ Vienna
Defense Mapping Agency/ Herndon NIKE Control Site/ W-83	December 2, 2009	Dranesville	Great Falls
Floris Historic District*	December 2, 2009	Hunter Mill	Herndon

* National Register of Historic Places or Virginia Landmarks Register

The current Inventory list along with its background, nomination forms and research guidelines are accessible to staff and the general public on the County website. (www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/historic/ihs). Copies of the Inventory forms will soon be distributed to each Fairfax County Public Library.

In July 2005, the Commission funded a Limited Term Historian I position within the Department of Planning and Zoning and hired Susan Hellman to begin the task of updating the Inventory for the first time since 1994. In June 2008, Laurie Turkawski took over, revised the Plan text and Inventory tables and made presentations to both the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors. The

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Commission is very grateful to the Board of Supervisors and DPZ for funding the Historian I position for fiscal years 2007 through 2009. Due to budget constraints, DPZ was unable to fund the position for FY 2010. The Commission felt that it was so important to continue to work on and improve the Inventory of Historic Sites that the Commission transferred \$46,000 to DPZ to fund the Limited Term Historian I position in FY 2010. DPZ will provide funding for FY 2011. In 2009, Ms. Turkawski's work included managing the Inventory, revising the Inventory nomination form, writing a "how to guide" and a sample nomination to aid the public in preparing nomination forms and developing a process whereby the Inventory can be routinely updated in the Comprehensive Plan. The Department of Planning and Zoning continues to be supportive. The Commission continues to work with County Staff to establish procedures for obtaining notice of impending demolition of Inventory sites, which might require a change in the Zoning Ordinance.

Sallie Lyons, Elise Ruff Murray, Barbara Naef and Debbie Robison serve on the Inventory Committee, in cooperation with Laurie Turkawski and Linda Cornish Blank of DPZ.

CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND PROTECTION SECTION GRANTS

Since 2000, Vicki Monken has put in over 2,210 hours entering archeological data into the computer for the Park Authority Cultural Resource Management and Protection Section. In addition to current data entry, she is working through reams of forms filled out by the County Archeology Program in the course of its over 30 years of operation. The Commission provides her a modest grant to do this invaluable work.

The History Commission provided funding for five interns. Elizabeth Peebles, a University of Delaware Historic Preservation graduate student, prepared Fairfax County Inventory of Historic Sites nominations. John Tucker, an Anthropology major from Virginia Commonwealth University and Chris Washburn, a recent graduate from University of Oregon with a degree in Anthropology, assisted in bringing the collection up to standards and assisted with field projects. Miranda von Reyn, a rising senior Anthropology major from George Mason University, created a GIS layer mapping historic roads and conducted archeological fieldwork at Huntley. Nora Allen, a student from the University of Mary Washington, prepared interpretative materials. All of these efforts were in support of the Cultural Resource Management Plan.

WEB SITE

The History Commission's web page includes recent marker dedications, publications information, member contact information and Commission accomplishments. It serves as an easy, up to date and readily available tool for anyone interested in our County's history. Debbie Robison manages the website. The webmaster is Greg Chase with the Department of Planning and Zoning. (<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/histcomm/>)

SPEAKER'S BUREAU

At the Board of Supervisors request, the Commission compiled a list of people willing and interested in speaking on topics related to Fairfax County history. The resulting Speaker's Bureau List includes a variety of countywide history topics with related speakers and contact information, including name, email address and phone number. Numerous members of the Commission are included. It is a continuous work in progress and is customized and updated as necessary.

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Members of the Fairfax County History Commission continue to be active in speaking before various civic, community and historic groups.

Anne Barnes has presented talks on the early historical Fairfax County “Colored” schools at the annual Fairfax County History Conference, Gunston Hall and historic one room Laurel Grove School located in Franconia, Virginia.

Don Hakenson, who left the Commission in July, is a well sought out speaker and has given presentations to countless Civil War, historical and civic organizations around the entire State of Virginia. He also conducts presentations and book signings on his books, *This Forgotten Land: a Tour of Civil War Sites and Other Historical Landmarks South of Alexandria, Virginia* and *Rangers Frank H. Rahm & John H. Lunceford*, and his two books co-authored with Gregg Dudding about Colonel John S. Mosby and his men. Mr. Hakenson conducts Mosby & Civil War bus tours with Gregg Dudding for the Stuart-Mosby Historical Society and for other historical organizations and has provided special Civil War tours and information to prominent writers and other out of state historians.

Jack Lewis Hiller spoke to seven different groups in 2009 in addition to giving 21 tours of Gunston Hall. Typically, he is asked to speak in public schools, to civic associations, historical groups, senior citizens or to private groups. Many of Hiller’s lectures are given with slides and focus on Springfield. Titles of his lectures include: “Murder at the Mill: My Search for William H. Keene,” “Henry Daingerfield and Origins of Springfield,” “Oakgrove: The Home that John H. Broders Built,” “The Hidden History of Hidden Pond Park,” “Here Lies Fairfax County,” and “An Introduction to Fairfax Archeology.”

Lynne Garvey-Hodge has a particular interest in the Progressive Era of the United States (1890–1920) and re-enacts suffragist Mrs. Robert Walker for numerous community events and Cox Cable Channel 10. Ms. Garvey-Hodge also gives talks about her recently completed book for Arcadia Publishers’ Images of America Series, *Clifton*. She gives presentations using music, photo boards and games on the history of Clifton to local groups.

Mary Lipsey continues to provide presentations on a variety of topics related to the “Braddock’s True Gold” project, local history, women's history and firsts in American history.

Sallie Lyons promotes preservation and archeological and historical research in the old town of Colchester, Colchester Park and Preserve and Mason Neck, speaking frequently to groups and at the History Conference.

Naomi Zeavin speaks at the Rotary and schools, etc. on Historic Mason District.

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

Fairfax County History Commission Members continue to be active in a variety of ways in the local community. This is not meant as a comprehensive list but merely a means to highlight the wide variety of activities of commission members.

Anne Barnes is a member of the Board of Directors of the Laurel Grove School Association.

Architect Member, Robert E. Beach, AIA, LEED, AP, designed the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial, which will be located in Occoquan Regional Park in Lorton and will pay tribute to the women who endured harsh imprisonment to secure voting rights for women. Lynne Garvey-Hodge and Irma Clifton serve on the committee for the project.

Irma Clifton is the President of the Lorton Heritage Society, Inc., and is historian and collections manager for the Lorton Arts Foundation. She owns a historic house in Falmouth, where she also is active in historic preservation.

Don Hakenson, who left the Commission in July, is the past President for the Stuart-Mosby Historical Society and is on the board of directors for the Franconia Museum. He also is an advisor for the Mosby Foundation & the Friends of Laura Radcliffe.

Carole Herrick is the co-chair of the McLean & Great Falls Celebrate Virginia as it prepares for the 100th commemoration.

Lynne Garvey-Hodge serves on the Town of Clifton Historic Preservation Committee, which she instigated; serves as co-chair of the Clifton Betterment Association's Clifton Oral History Project; and as the co-chair of the Annual Historic Candlelight Tour of the Town.

Sallie Lyons formed and incorporated the Friends of Fairfax County Archeology and Cultural Resources, FOFA, supporting the Cultural Resource Management and Protection Section of the Park Authority. Barbara Naef was among those who participated.

Sallie Lyons continues to promote preservation and archeology in Colchester and provide *pro bono* graphic design through Lyonshare Studios for CRMP historical interpretive trailside displays. She is an active member of the Lorton Heritage Society, Preservation Virginia and the Northern Virginia Chapter of the Archaeological Society of Virginia.

Elise Murray and Mayo Stuntz serve on the Board of Directors of the Historical Society of Fairfax County.

As the Archaeologist Representative on the Commission, Barbara Naef continued to meet regularly with the Park Authority Cultural Resource Management and Protection (CRMP) Section Manager, to keep advised and updated on the various activities and projects involving the countywide archeology programs that are managed through CRMP.

Through the first half of the year, Barbara Naef continued volunteer work with Park Authority Collections staff. Her primary project includes a continuation of research and documentation of objects in the Lahey collection of furnishings and decorative arts. In the spring of 2009, Barbara Naef accepted an assignment as volunteer coordinator for the Park Authority Resource Management Division's American Association of Museums (AAM) accreditation self-study. This project will last through most of the 2010 calendar year.

Debbie Robison spoke at the Vale School Diamond Jubilee and the Lorton Arts Foundation Suffragist marker dedication. She led costumed historical walking tours of the Centreville Historic District during Centreville Day, as well as volunteered at Celebrate Fairfax. Researching local history is one of Ms. Robison's avocations; she researched Conn's Ferry near Great Falls and published an extensive article on the history. In addition, she regularly assists the public by answering research questions. She is a member of the Historic Centreville Society Board and serves on the Centreville Joint Committee reviewing proposed developments in the Centreville Historic District.

Naomi Zeavin produced a video on the 5th Annual History Conference, "Fairfax: This is your County," which was shown on channel 10. In addition, she serves on the board of directors of the Capitol Hill Civil War Roundtable.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

A brief examination of the background of the Fairfax County History Commission reveals a wide and diverse variety of backgrounds that members bring to their work.

Joseph Balicki—Senior Associate/Principal Archeologist with John Milner Associates, Inc., Alexandria, Virginia, is a Registered Professional Archeologist (RPA), with over 28 years of archeological experience. Mr. Balicki has directed or participated in numerous archeological projects in Virginia covering prehistoric and historic sites. He has extensive knowledge of the Civil War period in Northern Virginia and is an expert in the field of military encampment archeology on which he has presented numerous papers at professional conferences, written articles and contributed chapters to books.

Anne M. Barnes—originally from Georgia, is a longtime Fairfax County resident who now lives on Mason Neck. She received a B.S. in Criminal Law from Savannah State College, Savannah, Georgia; a M.A. in Government from Johns Hopkins University. She worked on an archeological project in South Carolina in the mid 1980s. She is a former Marine Corps Officer, U.S. Congressional staffer, American History teacher and is currently the Resource Manager for a Department of Defense strategic training center. Anne served as a co-chair for the First Annual Fairfax County History Conference in November 2005 and has continued to serve on each History Conference Committee since its inception. She served as Vice Chairman of the History Commission in 2006 through 2008 and as Treasurer for 2010.

Robert E. Beach—after receiving his Bachelor of Architecture from Pratt Institute in New York in 1982, practiced architecture in the firm of SITE, Inc there. Hereupon relocating to Fairfax County, he worked in several notable Washington area architecture firms prior to starting his own practice in Falls Church in 1989, which does historic architectural restoration on local, state and national levels. The Architect member of the Commission, he has served since 2000, as Chairman in 2006–2008 and Vice Chairman in 2004–2005, and has represented the Commission for several years as a jury member for the Fairfax County Exceptional Design Awards. Professionally, Mr. Beach is a member of the American Institute of Architects (AIA), a director on the AIA Northern Virginia Chapter Board, and a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Accredited Professional (LEED, AP). He is also a member of the USGBC (United States Green Building Council). In addition, he is a Boy Scouts of America Architecture and Aviation Merit Badge Counselor and is a licensed instrument rated private pilot who volunteers flight time for Angel Flights several times a year. He lives in Fairfax, Virginia.

Gretchen Bulova—brings a wealth of museum experience to the Commission. She holds a BA in Anthropology and a BA in Classical Studies from the College of William and Mary and an MA in Museum Studies from The George Washington University. Ms. Bulova is the Director of Gadsby's Tavern Museum and the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum in Alexandria, Virginia. She specializes in the interpretation of late 18th century material culture and lectures widely on a variety of topics related to Alexandria and Gadsby's Tavern. She is active in the local museum community, serving as a Peer Reviewer for the American Association of Museums, the Treasurer for the Historic House Museum Consortium of Washington, DC, and a panelist and conference planning committee member for the Virginia Association of Museums. In 2010, Ms. Bulova was elected to the board of the Virginia Association of Museums. Ms. Bulova is committed to the preservation of local history and inspiring the next generation to love museums and our nation's rich heritage.

Irma A. Clifton—was born and raised in Lorton and presently resides in a 90-year-old farmhouse purchased by her parents in 1945. She has long been an advocate for preservation and adaptive reuse issues. From 1967–1993, she held a variety of positions related to management and security at the D.C. Department of Corrections correctional institution in Lorton, Virginia. In addition to her regular assigned duties, she assembled and maintained a museum containing documents and items associated with the Department of Corrections, and acted as Corrections historian, regularly lecturing on this topic for new employee orientation. She studied Historic Preservation at Mary Washington College. After retiring in 1993, she volunteered for numerous charity and civic activities. She also owns a home in the Falmouth Historic District. She has served on numerous committees and task forces over the years to help develop a plan for use of the D.C. Prison at Lorton after it closed. On the Commission, she served as Treasurer 2007 through 2009.

Phyllis Walker Ford—appointed in February 2009, earned a B.A. in Business Administration from Bluefield State College, Bluefield, West, Virginia and an MBA from Trinity College, Washington, D.C., leading to sixteen years in the Telecommunications industry. A direct descendent of the family who donated land in 1881 for the Laurel Grove Colored School, a school to serve the African American children in the Franconia area, she was instrumental in restoring the school, establishing a museum and searching out its history. She is also active in education programs at the Laurel Grove School and the Franconia Museum. She serves as the Commission’s Secretary for 2010.

Donald C. Hakenson—who stepped down in July, was born in Washington D.C., but has lived practically his entire life in Franconia. He is a Vietnam era veteran and recently retired as a Department of the Army employee after 37 years. Since 1989, he was the Director for the Joint Services Records Research Center. Outside of the Army, he has spent countless years tracking and researching obscure Civil War and Revolutionary War incidents and sites in Fairfax County, especially regarding the Confederate guerilla chieftain Colonel John S. Mosby and his rangers. He gives talks and bus tours on Mosby and local Civil War history. He writes frequently on Mosby, the Civil War and Fairfax County history.

Carole Herrick—lives in McLean. As a nationally ranked tennis player, she attended Los Angeles State College, where she received her BA in History. She serves on the Publications and History Conference committees. Active in local civic and historical groups, she has also written numerous articles for publication about McLean and the Northern Virginia area.

Jack Lewis Hiller—lives in West Springfield and has been a member of the Commission since 1981. Mr. Hiller holds a bachelor’s degree in History from the College of William and Mary (’53), a master’s degree in Education from the University of Virginia (’66) and a master’s degree in History from Carnegie-Mellon University (’69). He taught history for 30 years at Groveton High School and West Potomac High School. He also taught history at Northern Virginia Community College. He was co-founder of the Fairfax County Public School’s Summer Archeology Program that operated between 1973 and 1988. He retired from teaching in 1988. He chaired the Commission in 1994–1995. He writes and speaks on topics about the Springfield area. He is also a volunteer docent at Gunston Hall. In addition to having worked as a volunteer archaeologist, Mr. Hiller occasionally freelances as a photographer. His portrait of Dr. Martin Luther King is part of the permanent collection at the National Portrait Gallery. Mr. Hiller chairs the History Commission’s Historical Marker Committee.

Lynne Garvey-Hodge—has been a resident of Fairfax County for 25 years and has been a resident of Clifton, Virginia for ten years, where she is extremely active in preserving the historicity of Clifton. She has a particular interest in the Progressive Era of the United States (1890–1920) and re-enacts suffragist Mrs. Robert Walker at numerous community events and for Cox Cable Channel 10. Ms. Garvey-Hodge recently completed a book for Arcadia Publishers' Images of America Series, *Clifton*. She has a BFA from the University of Colorado, majoring in art history, an MPA (Masters in Public Administration) with a major in Human Resources also from the University of Colorado and a MTS (Masters in Theological Studies) from Wesley Theological Seminary. She has begun her fourth consecutive term on the Commission. She served as chairperson in 2004 and 2005 and represented the Commission on the Exceptional Design Awards jury in 2005, 2006 and 2008. She currently is the chair of the Awards Committee and sits on the Publications, Ethnic and Oral History committees. She spearheaded efforts to launch the First Annual Fairfax County History Conference in 2005 and has chaired the History Conference Committee since 2006.

Michael R. Irwin—is a 15-year resident of Fairfax County. Born in Pennsylvania, he grew up with a deep interest in American History. In high school he was a volunteer with the Pennsylvania State Museum and Historical Commission working in the registrar's office at the William Penn Memorial Museum in Harrisburg and in college served an internship in the same office. He graduated from Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pa., with a B.A. in History (concentration in American History), a minor in Fine Arts History and was installed as a member of the Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society. Since moving to Virginia, he can often be found at the Smithsonian Institution or one of the other historic venues in the greater Washington area. His main interests are the World War II period, especially the war's impact on social structures on the home front and early American industrial history.

Mary Lipsey—was born in Atlanta and raised in Fairfax County. She received a B.A in History and Sociology from Mary Washington College (1972) and a Masters in Middle School Education from Virginia Tech (1989). In June 2003, she retired after 30 years of teaching seventh grade American History in the Fairfax County Public Schools during which she achieved professional recognition by being selected for Who is Who Among America's Teachers and was nominated for the Disney Teacher of the Year Award. She has been a volunteer docent for the American History Museum of the Smithsonian since 1980 and for the National Archives since 2004. Her interest in local history has found outlets through co-authoring *Braddock's True Gold*, writing articles on local history and women's history, and speaking to senior citizens groups. She has been a member of A Look Back at Braddock project that promotes historical events for the residents in Braddock District. As a member of the Commission, she serves on the Markers, Publications and History Conference Committees. She is president of the non-profit Fairfax County Cemetery Preservation Association, Inc, whose goal is to preserve and protect family cemeteries in Fairfax County. Mary is also an active volunteer with her community and a local park.

Sallie Lyons—was born a North Carolinian and raised in University Park, Maryland. She received a degree in Art History from Duke University, worked at the Library of Congress and held a teaching assistantship in Anthropology while a graduate student at the University of Maryland. She did archeological excavations in Winchester, the old capital of Saxon England. She came to northern Virginia in 1970 and lived on Brick Yard Point in Wellington Villa until moving to the old town of Colchester on Mason Neck in 1984. Living on two historic archeological sites made her keenly aware of history and preservation in the Mount Vernon area and has spent 20 years supporting preservation and research in Colchester, Mason Neck and Lorton. Partnered with her husband, Gerald Lyons, she is owner of Lyonshare Studios, LLC, a technical computer graphics company that provides illustrative support for transportation, planning, architecture and publication. She also does historical illustration. She is an active member of local and state archeology and history organizations.

Esther W. McCullough—grew up in Longview, Texas and received her Bachelor of Science in Clothing and Textiles from North Texas State University (now The University of North Texas). After moving to Fairfax County in 1996, she could not find information on the history of African-Americans in the area, so she created a brochure, “African-American Sites in Fairfax County before 1900.” She is a member of the Fairfax County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. She is the chairperson of the Ethnic Committee and sits on the Marker Committee and the History Conference Committee. She served as the Secretary of the Commission from 2004–2007. Scrapbooking memories and preserving history are two things that she treasures. She has led workshops for senior citizens in nursing homes using scrapbooking techniques. Esther works part time as an administrative/executive assistant and volunteers throughout Fairfax County.

Elise Ruff Murray—grew up in Vienna, Virginia and now resides in Reston. She earned a BA in History from the University of Virginia and is interested in archeology, history and preservation. Her interests have led her to serve on many Fairfax County Exceptional Design Awards Juries since 1991 and as the Commission’s liaison with the Architectural Review Board since 1992. A member of the Commission since 1983, she served as Chairman in 1988–1989, worked on the Commission’s finances and budget submissions since 1986, served as Treasurer from 1990–2005, and as Vice Chairman since 2009. She worked as an economic consultant advising on anti-trust and commercial litigation matters for over 20 years. Ms. Murray and her husband operate Sunspot Production, which is a five-year-old concert series in Old Town Alexandria, Virginia focusing on traditional Irish, Scottish, Americana and Old-Time music.

Barbara M. Naef—has been a resident of Reston since 1968. She earned a B.A. in History, Phi Beta Kappa from Duke University and a M.A. in American History from the University of Delaware. She retired in 2002 after 23 years working to preserve and interpret our county history at the Fairfax County Park Authority. She continues to work as a volunteer for the Park Authority and for other historical organizations. The Archaeologist Representative on the Commission, she serves on the Publications Committee, Inventory of Historic Sites Committee, Budget Committee and annual History Conference Committee.

Debbie Robison—lives in Centreville and is a long-time resident of Fairfax County. She manages the historic preservation/restoration program for a local architectural and engineering firm. Ms. Robison holds a Bachelor of Science degree from VA Tech and a Historic Preservation Certificate from NOVA. She is active in Centreville historical matters. Her interest in researching local history has resulted in her authoring numerous articles about general aspects of northern Virginia’s past and the history of specific sites. To promote preservation and facilitate local history education, Ms. Robison hosts a website, www.novahistory.org. Elected the Commission’s Chairman in 2009, she continues to serve in 2010.

Page S. Shelp—newly appointed in 2009, while originally from California, she has lived in Fairfax County for most of her adult life, moving west from Falls Church and McLean to Great Falls. She received her Bachelor's degree in History and in Art History from Colorado Woman's College, her Secondary School Education Teaching credentials in history and in English at Mills College and her Master's degree from Georgetown University. She has taught history, but spent the greater part of her career (25 years) as the executive director of the McLean Community Center where she became especially interested in and involved with local history and the preservation of community institutions.

Steven Sherman—who joined the Commission in November was born in Washington, D.C. and raised in Arlington, Virginia. He has lived in Northern Virginia for over 60 years and graduated from Wakefield High School in 1964 and attended Morris Harvey College in Charleston, West Virginia and Northern Virginia Community College in Annandale, Virginia, where he majored in Accounting and History. He is President/Broker of Sherman Properties, Inc., located in Franconia and has been in the real estate business for the past 40 years. Since 1984, he has owned the historic “Five Oaks Estates” manor house built in 1910 located off Blake Lane in Fairfax County. He is currently on the Board of Directors of Celebrate Fairfax and has also served on the Board of Directors of the Franconia Museum for the past five years and currently serves as the President of the Museum.

Mayo S. Stuntz—was born in Vienna, Virginia and has been on the History Commission since 1969. He assisted in establishing the predecessor, the Landmarks Preservation Committee in 1965. He attended Cornell University and served in the U.S. Army for seven years retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel. He has taught local history in the area high school adult education program and at George Mason University. He and his wife have published four local history books. Over the years, Mr. Stuntz has spoken to countless audiences, been involved in local historical matters and serves as a source for information on County history.

Naomi Zeavin—is a resident of Falls Church. She was born in New Britain, Connecticut and majored in Speech and Drama at Emerson College in Boston, Massachusetts. She conducts research and makes videos on local history, especially Mason District, African-Americans and the Civil War. A presidential advisor on the arts during the administration of President Ronald Reagan, she has been appointed to and served on numerous advisory boards, commissions and committees on the both the national and local level. She is president of U-R-Unique, a company of video productions. Ms. Zeavin restored a Jewish cemetery in her father’s birthplace in Poland. On the Commission, she served as Secretary from 2007 through 2009.